



ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR.

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THOMAS G. NEWMAN, } EDITORS.  
GEORGE W. YORK, }

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## EDITORIAL BUZZINGS.

Help a Man out of trouble, and though he'll forget

Your kindness as soon as his trouble is o'er—  
If ever again "in a hole" he should get,  
Ah! then he will think of you kindly once more.

**Sugar**, for feeding bees, will cost more money hereafter. The quarantine has interfered with the importation of sugar, and the refiners have taken advantage of that fact and raised the prices. At this time, quotations are very unsteady and feverish. To-day a barrel of the best granulated sugar, containing from 300 to 350 pounds, will cost at wholesale price from  $5\frac{1}{4}$  to  $5\frac{3}{4}$  cents per pound, and correspondingly more at retail. This will answer many queries sent to this office about the prospect for sugar quotations in the near future, as well as the prices for to-day.

**Honey is Scarce** this fall, and will no doubt be scarcer before winter is half over. It ought to bring a good price, especially if a good article. Those who are so fortunate as to have any honey to sell, will be doubly fortunate this year, because of the high price which it will command. One of those who give the market quotations in the BEE JOURNAL from time to time, has this to say in a letter received on Sept. 13, 1892:

We cannot get honey enough to supply our trade. So far we could fill every order received, but we have written to most of our shippers, and although we have always had honey on the way, it is very likely that we shall not have a barrel on hand before we know it. We could not afford to solicit sales for the last three months, but were always in danger of receiving orders that we could not fill. This is the time for bogus honey, such as Prof. Wiley talks about!

The present season is contrary to all our former experience. We could show our friends (who could bear testimony) at almost any time 100 to 500 barrels of honey, but we have not 30 barrels on hand to-day, and we can ship all to-day or to-morrow. So, you see, there is no over-stocking of the market this year.

**The Illinois State Convention** will meet at the Commercial Hotel in Chicago, Ills., on Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct. 18th and 19th, 1892. This will be during the dedication of the World's Fair buildings, when about one fare for the round trip will be expected on all the railroads centering in Chicago. There should be a large attendance of bee-keepers. Though the honey crop has been very meager again this year, there is nothing to prevent those attending this convention from having a grand good time socially, anyway. It is encouraging to meet together even if for nothing more than to exchange sympathies. Many a blessing and much inspiration can be had just out of that. Come, and help to bless your brother and sister bee-keeper by your presence and—cheerful sympathy.

**Among the Callers** at the BEE JOURNAL office the past week, and whom we were glad to see, were the following:

Rev. E. T. Abbott, of St. Joseph, Mo., who will have an interesting article in next week's BEE JOURNAL.

Mr. A. D. Webb, of Taylorville, Ill., who publishes a newspaper there. He has a few colonies of bees, more for pleasure than for profit—which may be the case with many in poor seasons. His bees are securing much honey from a species of smart-weed, commonly and erroneously called "heart's-ease." He reports a fair crop for his locality—Christian county.

Mr. Henry O. Morris, of Pueblo, Colo., who has 280 colonies of bees, and reports about half a crop this year. Sweet clover, alfalfa, and the Rocky Mountain bee-plant, or cleome, are the principal honey-yielders in his locality.

Mr. O. M. Morris, of Hebron, Ind., an old reader of the BEE JOURNAL, and Mr. H. C. Ahlers, who was on his way to his home in New Orleans, La.

We are glad to have our friends thus come in, and expect to see many of them next month at the Illinois State Convention.

**The Wabash Valley** Bee-Keepers' Association have succeeded in raising the list of premiums for 1892 at the Knox County, Indiana Fair from \$6 to \$200, and as they would like to keep it up to \$200 hereafter, a cordial invitation is extended to all bee-keepers and supply dealers within reach of that Fair, to attend and make a display, and also take some of the premium money home with them. Parties wishing to exhibit will please write in regard to the space, etc., to Mr. Frank Vawter, Vincennes, Ind., the Secretary of the Wabash Valley Bee-Keepers' Association. The Fair will be held at Vincennes, on Oct. 10th to 15th, 1892.

Read S. F. & I. Trego's Advertisement.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

### FRANCIS A. GEMMILL.

We take much pleasure in presenting to our readers this week, a sketch and portrait of Mr. F. A. Gemmill, of Stratford, Ont.—one of Canada's most prominent bee-keepers—which was written for the *Canadian Bee Journal* by Mr. Alex. Lamond, of Sarnia, Ont., and was published in May. It will be read with much interest not only by his fellow Canadians, but by his many friends on this side of the imaginary line that separates us.

Mr. Gemmill is now the honored President of the Ontario Bee-Keepers' Association, which makes him a particularly interesting personage, as the time for holding conventions is drawing very near. The following is the sketch of his life, referred to above:

Mr. Gemmill is a Scotch Canadian by birth, 46 years of age, his parents having settled in the County of Lanark, where they resided until they moved to Sarnia, County of Lambton, in 1854.

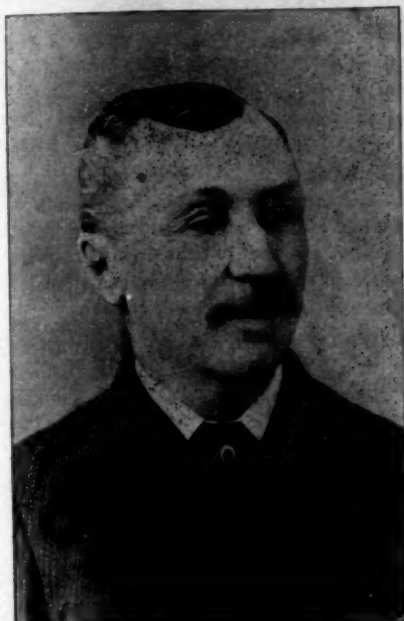
In 1863, at the age of 17, he became an enthusiast in apiculture, the result of his visits to an uncle, residing in the same place. Box-hives were the order of the day at that time, and "Quinby's Mysteries of Bee-Keeping" his principal text-book.

In February of 1864 he secured a copy of the third edition of "Langstroth, on the Hive and Honey-Bee," and as the Italian bee had been commanding considerable attention, as well as the movable-comb hive, he resolved to give both a trial. Accordingly, in June of that year, he had a swarm of native bees placed in one of the Langstroth observing hives, which, by the way, still remains in his apiary.

In the latter part of October he secured from Mr. Langstroth, by express, an Italian queen, paying the then moderate sum of \$10 for her, the same

having been sold in the forepart of the season for \$15 and \$20 each. She was accordingly introduced, as per the instructions sent, but the result of the introduction was not known until the spring following, when he had the satisfaction of seeing young Italians disporting themselves on fine days in April.

The subject of our sketch has not been what is now termed "an extensive apiarist," never having owned more



FRANCIS A. GEMMILL.

than 75 colonies at any one time. Neither has he always kept bees from 1863 until the present time, as circumstances prevented his always remaining in the same locality; still he has never lost his old-time interest or enthusiasm for the pursuit, and was preparing himself to extend his sphere in this line, and establish a permanent out-apiary, when foul brood—the scourge of the apiarist—slightly manifested itself in his apiary in the fall of 1879; hence his action, combined with a few others, at the meeting

of the Ontario Bee-Keepers' Association, held in Belleville, in January, 1890, urging the necessity of securing Legislation in regard to this disease, with good results, and also took a prominent part in the Act preventing the spraying of fruit trees while in bloom, now in force in Ontario.

Mr. Gemmill has used almost exclusively the eight-frame Langstroth, and latterly the New Heddon hive; and has wintered bees, with fair success, both out-doors and in the cellar. He thinks both methods have much to commend them. Cellar-wintered bees, in his estimation, should be protected in spring with packing, in order to secure the best results.

His present location, although an average one, is, he finds, over-stocked, there being within the city limits (Stratford) about 250 colonies. Notwithstanding this, he secures fair crops, but nevertheless is in the habit of moving his apiary some miles distant, in order to secure the benefit of a fall flow, which so far has been successful as to the amount of honey gathered, but he is not sure about the colony being benefited in the end; experience rather tending to show better results in wintering from colonies that have gathered no fall honey—buckwheat, however, is not included in the list of fall flowers.

Besides having done considerable at queen-rearing, he is a great lover of producing comb honey, but the late poor seasons have turned his attention more to the extracted article. Although not given to trying every new-fangled device, he is not slow in adopting some, merely because they are new, hence his preference for labor-saving apparatus, such as bee-escapes, etc., including a hive cart, *a la* Boardman, with some improvements considered of advantage in his special case.

In addition to the above he has been President of two local associations for a number of years in succession. He has also been a director of the Ontario Association for some time past, as well as

serving two years as Vice-President, and now occupies the position of President of this Association, having been appointed in January last.

That all should keep bees is not a hobby of his, unless they have some love for the pursuit, as well as adaptability, time and sufficient pluck to stick at it after once commencing. He has suggested that a season spent with a practical apiarist, or attending such a college as the one conducted by Prof. W. F. Clarke, of Guelph, a good way of teaching any contemplating a trial.

In conclusion: After having served his apprenticeship as a printer in his father's office, he followed the drug business for about ten years, but has for several years past occupied a position in the Civil Service. His family consists of wife, son of 15 (who, by the way, is no novice, and is also a great aid in the apiary, although a trifle backward in coming to the front under some circumstances), and a daughter of 12, who occasionally cages a queen when well paid for it. She thinks, however, her father can "roost" longer on a bee-hive than any other man under the sun.

**Handling Farm Produce** is the title of a neat, 20-page pamphlet by A. I. Root, which he sends free to all who ask for it. It contains a few hints and suggestions on the method of handling and marketing such farm and garden produce as Potatoes, Onions, Tomatoes, Cucumbers, etc., by the use of Bushel Boxes; with a description and price-list of various styles of boxes for farm use. It also has a chapter from "A B C of Potato Culture," and a list of other rural publications issued by Mr. Root. Send your name and address on a postal card for a copy of it. It's good—like everything else that comes from A. I. Root, of Medina, Ohio.

**Seats for 125,000** people are to be provided in the great Manufactures building at the World's Fair for the dedication exercises on Oct. 21st.

### **The Iowa Bee-Lawsuits.**

As promised on page 360 of last week's issue of the BEE JOURNAL, we present to our readers a full account of the lawsuits referred to. It is written by General Manager Thomas G. Newman, and reads as follows:

In Cascade, Iowa, there lives a man who is known by the name of John Foulkes, and he imagined that he was commissioned to oust the bees from that little "burgh." Accordingly he commenced suit against his two neighbors, who were keeping a few bees, to compel them to move the "little honey-gatherers"—that is, when there is any honey to be obtained from the flowers.

These two neighbors happened to belong to the National Bee-Keepers' Union, and as the members of the Union (as well as others) may be interested in the case, as General Manager I will recite the facts and extraordinary claims of Mr. Foulkes, as well as the decision of the Judge.

The two bee-keepers who were sued were Montgomery Wyrick and Isaac Hunter. They promptly notified me, as General Manager of the Union, and I engaged Attorney Alphons Matthews to attend to the matter. The cases came up for hearing on Aug. 4th, and, by agreement, they were submitted to the Court on *ex-parte* affidavits, which were numerous on each side. The cases were finally submitted to the Court on Aug. 26, and on Thursday, Sept. 1st, Judge Lenehan issued an order refusing to grant temporary injunctions, and continuing the cases, for final hearing, at the coming term, on the question whether permanent injunctions should issue on such further showing as the plaintiff may be able to make.

Of course this practically decides the whole matter, for if on *ex-parte* testimony the plaintiff could not make a case strong enough to win, he cannot hope to do so, when on a final hearing, a chance is given to cross-examine the witnesses and sift the testimony. If he



failed with *ex-parte* affidavits, he certainly cannot win when the defendant's attorney gets after him and his witnesses.

Here is an extract from a Dubuque paper of Sept. 2nd, the reading of which will cause bee-keepers to smile audibly:

**THE BUSY LITTLE BEE MAY FLOURISH UNMOLESTED BY THE LAW.**

Judge Lenehan retired from the bench of the District Court yesterday, and will hereafter devote his time to the business of the law firm of Lyon & Lenehan.

One of the last acts of the retiring Judge was the filing of decisions in the cases brought by John Foulkes against Montgomery Wyrick and Isaac Hunter. All the parties live in Cascade, and the plaintiff's residence is situated between those of the defendants, each of whom is engaged in bee-keeping.

Mr. Foulkes claimed that the swarms of bees were a dreadful nuisance, and made his life miserable. Among other things he claimed that the bees were so thick that as they swarmed around his premises they shut off the light of day, and kept his house in darkness.

Through Attorneys Welch & Welch, of Monticello, he filed applications for injunctions to restrain Messrs. Wyrick and Hunter from maintaining their beehives.

The case was submitted on affidavits Aug. 4th, Attorney Alphons Matthews representing the defendants. Depositions from a large number of Cascade people were taken under consideration by Judge Lenehan, and Thursday he filed decisions denying the applications of plaintiffs.

The opinion says that the defendants have been engaged in the keeping of bees for many years past, and that an injunction would deprive them of a source of livelihood in a business which the courts recognize as legal.

It is understood that the National Bee-Keepers' Association took up the fight in behalf of Messrs. Wyrick and Hunter.

Just think of the naughty bees swarming so thickly around the premises of Mr. Foulkes as to *shut out the light of day, and keep his house in darkness!*

I should think there would be fun in that court room when Attorney Matthews gets after the testimony on that point!

What a wonderfully diminutive house the Foulkes mansion must be if a few bees can keep it in darkness, and "shut off the light of day!" But perhaps the bees stung him near the eyes, and in that way "shut off the light of day" for him personally! This is about on a par with the case where one fellow testified that the bees ate up his peaches, and made a meal of his young ducks!

The community, the Judge and the lawyers have all been dosed with copies of the "Decision of the Supreme Court of the Arkansas," which decided that bees were not *per se* a nuisance. It is a fact that wherever that document goes, it is a sure cure for the persecution, waged by ignorance and jealousy, against our pets—the bees. Decisions like that form a "bulwark of defense" like the rock of Gibraltar, which seems stronger than ever after having been lashed by the waves of the mighty Ocean.

THOMAS G. NEWMAN,

*General Manager of N. B.-K. Union.*

**The Allegany County Bee-Keepers' Association** of New York State was organized on Sept. 7, 1892, with 23 charter members. The following were elected as officers: President, H. C. Farnum, of Transit Bridge; Secretary, H. L. Dewight, of Friendship; and Treasurer, Herbert Spring, of Belvidere. The next meeting will be held at Mrs. H. Green's, in Angelica, N. Y., at 2 p.m., on Monday, Nov. 28, 1892, to which all bee-keepers are invited. We bespeak for this new organization the prosperity which always attends the earnest and constant efforts on the part of the members of such bodies.

**Carl Hagenbeck**, the celebrated German collector and tamer of wild animals, is in Chicago to arrange for the extensive zoological exhibit which he will make in Midway Plaisance at the World's Fair. He will exhibit lions, tigers, panthers, leopards, bears, monkeys, etc., in great numbers, and will show the largest "happy family" ever seen.

## IN SUNNY SOUTHLAND.

CONDUCTED BY

**Mrs. Jennie Atchley,**

FLOYD, HUNT CO., TEX.

### A Queen-Rearing Dialogue.

"Good morning, Mrs. Atchley. What are you going to do with those wax-cups you are dipping there?"

Well, Charles, these are the Doolittle queen-cell cups we read about.

"What are you putting them on that comb for, when Doolittle says put them on sticks?"

Charles, you see the weather is cooler now, and we find by sticking these cell-cups right on the sealed brood, the bees accept and finish them up better.

"How do you make them stick on the brood?"

Don't you see? Now just watch me. You see the cups are dipped stout at the base, or dipped times enough to form a good lump of wax, so I can handle them without injury. Now, I just press them down firm on the sealed brood, that way, with the tip of the cell standing a little off from the comb, that way.

"What is that you are putting into these cell-cups?"

That is royal jelly, or food prepared by the bees to rear a queen with, and for the want of a better name we call it "royal jelly."

"Where do you get the royal jelly?"

Don't you see Willie caging queens yonder?

"Yes."

Well, we let these nuclei remain queenless for three days before we give them another cell, and then they are sure not to tear the cell down. By this time these nuclei have all started queen-cells, and you see Amanda yonder, going from hive to hive as if she were picking pears?

"Yes."

She is taking out the larvæ from the cells those nuclei have started, and with a little spoon made for the purpose, we call a "royal jelly spoon," she dips the jelly from those cells in the nuclei, and puts it into little boxes like this. So you see where we get most of our royal jelly. You can take the jelly from any place where the bees have started cells.

"Are you having your cells built in

upper stories over colonies having a laying queen, as Doolittle does?"

No; we have ours all built in queenless colonies this year, in lower stories, as the other is too slow, and rather more uncertain than having them built in queenless colonies. We know that these queenless colonies will accept and finish up a good lot every time, for they are very strong.

"Where do you get these strong queenless colonies, all the time? Don't they keep running down, and become weak, and 'no good'?"

No, no. You see I have selected 10 good, prolific queens whose progeny are good cell-builders. And you see those 20 hives yonder, by themselves?

"Yes."

Well, that is my "cell-building apiary." On first starting I made 10 of them queenless, letting the other 10 lay on until my first batch of cells came off; then I take those 10 select cell-building queens out, and just turn them loose in the queenless 10 that have just completed cells, and they never stop laying; by this time the brood is beginning to hatch out, and these queens at once fill the hives full of brood again. Then I give to the queenless 10 about 20 cell-cups after three days, and they usually finish up about a dozen each, on an average. Then when these get "ripe," as we call it, we take them out and give them their laying queens back, and start cells again as before, and vice versa. If at any time we see these colonies giving way, we slip in a frame of hatching bees from other colonies, and I tell you this works like a charm, and our cells are all built in full colonies.

"There, now, Mrs. Atchley, let me stop you to ask were you get the larvæ you are putting into those queen-cups?"

Just come here, Charles, and I will show you by opening "Old Pet's" hive. (That is the name of one of the five-banded breeders.) Now you see this is a very strong colony; but you see this queen-excluding division-board?

"Yes."

Well, Old Pet is kept over on this side with only three frames, and this side is kept up with brood from other sources.

"What is that all for?"

I will try to tell you. You understand Old Pet is very prolific, and a fine select breeder, and should I let her have her own way, and full access to the whole hive, she would soon lay herself to death, or lay her eggs all out; and by keeping her penned off here, I let her lay only about enough for my needs;

hence, she will live 4 or 5 years. Now you set this middle frame on her side in a frame of new foundation. Do you see how nice the bees are drawing it out? And do you see how full of eggs it is?

"Yes, yes."

Here I get the young larvæ. I cut out a piece of this new comb that contains larvæ about one day old from the egg, and shave the cells down close so that I can get the larvæ out easy. Now this is where and how I get my queen-larvæ, and there will be reared about 2,000 queens from "Pet" this year.

(To be continued.)

### Migratory Bee-Keeping, Etc.

The following I find in *Gleanings*, from one of our noted Southern bee-keepers:

Migratory bee-keeping seems to be quite popular here. Several bee-men have brought their apiaries here from the interior to secure the mangrove yield, and these bees came in good shape, as they had built up strong on the orange blossom and other interior crops. Messrs. Poppleton and Storer also brought their bees back from the St. Lucie River, where they had secured a good crop of wild penny-royal and saw-palmetto honey, and got their bees in good condition to make the most of the summer crop here. The Florida honey crop will run considerably below the average for this season, beyond question.

My friend, Harry Mitchell, made a little discovery lately in regard to an application to the hands that prevents the bees from stinging them, but I will let him give it to the public, if he cares to do so.

W. S. HART.

Hawks' Park, Fla., July 28, 1892.

### Five-Banded Bees—What are They?

Elizabeth S., of Texas, asks: "What are five-banded bees, anyway?"

I am glad that this question was asked just at this time, as some inexperienced bee-friends have almost wanted the five-banded queen-breeders put into jail, or black-list them, which is worse. So, now, I shall try in my humble way to tell all about it.

All probably know by this time what a pure Italian queen is, or what is called a pure three-banded queen. Well, I work and breed the five-banded queens just the same as the three-banded variety. That is, the breeder I use is a

pure, or as pure a five-banded queen as I can get, making all her workers, or at least seven-eighths, five-banded. We also rear the untested queens from them, and if one meets a black drone and produces hybrid bees, or a three-banded drone, and produces bees two, three, four and five bands, as the case may be, we call her a "five-banded queen," just because her mother is such; just the same as we call a three-banded queen a pure Italian, only mismated, don't you see?

Now, while every precaution is taken to mate the queens, some will "switch" and produce the hybrid bees. Now, I do not claim that all the untested five-banded queens that are sent out will produce five-banded bees, but I know a majority will produce some five-banded. I simply agree to rear all the queens as being five-banded from a pure five-banded mother, and the receiver must take the risk on getting five-banded bees, just as he takes the risk on getting pure three-banded bees when he buys untested queens. And a tested, five-banded queen may produce three, four, and five-banded bees, and we simply call her a tested five-banded queen, because she produces some five-banded bees, and we do not claim she will produce all five-banded bees, but grade or class her according to the amount of bees or part of her progeny that are five-banded. While we breed from queens and drones that are solid yellow, some of the untested queens will prove to be hybrids, just like other Italian bees.

Now I have tried to make this plain, and ask you to consider these points before censuring breeders too heavy. Let us all try to "keep sweet," no matter how hot our discussions, for would not a bee-keeper look funny with a sour face?

### A Free Portrait of your favorite

Presidential candidate is offered on page 389, in connection with the *Orange Judd Farmer* and the *BEE JOURNAL*. We have a set of these Portraits in our office, and can say that they are very fine indeed. They are 12x16 inches in size, and, as a picture, would ornament any home. The *Orange Judd Farmer* is an elegant, 16-page, weekly farm and home paper, and should be read by all who want to make a success of farm work, and also have a well-informed household.



## QUERIES AND REPLIES.

### Keeping Bees on Shares.

**Query 837.**—What share of the honey crop is it fair to give for the care of bees, the owner furnishing all needful supplies?—Texas.

I cannot tell.—R. L. TAYLOR.

One-fourth.—J. P. H. BROWN.

One-half.—MRS. L. HARRISON.

In your locality, one-half.—H. D. CUTTING.

I believe one-half is usually agreed upon.—MRS. J. N. HEATER.

Say one-third. But we prefer to hire help by the month.—E. FRANCE.

Just the share upon which you and the owner can agree.—G. M. DOOLITTLE.

Two-fifths for taking care of them, and one-fifth for location.—DADANT & SON.

I think about one-half. This is the rule, I think, in most sections.—A. J. COOK.

I should say, divide the cost of needful supplies, and divide the crop even.—G. W. DEMAREE.

I am not competent to answer the question. It would depend on circumstances.—M. MAHIN.

This is a mooted question, and much depends. I will venture the assertion from one-third to one-half.—J. M. HAMBAUGH.

The returns from bees are so inconsistent from year to year, that what would be fair one year might not be the next.—G. L. TINKER.

Half and half has always been the rule here. But in some countries one-fourth might pay the laborer.—MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY.

That will depend upon the season. In a season like this, the owner should furnish everything, and pay for the care of the bees, besides.—A. B. MASON.

That is a mooted question. Much depends upon what the keeper is to do, and how he does it. I believe the division is usually half and half.—C. H. DIBBERN.

This is a question that has been asked many times, and no answer given as yet

that can be followed as a rule. Wait until the season is over, and then divide equitably in accordance with results.—J. E. POND.

I don't believe much in "share" business. If I were keeping bees on share this year, I'd want all the honey and part of the old colonies for my share.—C. C. MILLER.

I never had any experience in renting bees, and am inclined to look with disfavor on the practice. I think that very few such agreements are satisfactory to all parties.—EUGENE SECOR.

Don't ask me to say, as so much depends upon conditions which you do not mention. Ordinarily, half and half; and all the increase to the apiary to offset the death rate.—JAMES HEDDON.

This would vary so much—circumstances, such as season, capability of apiarist, method of management, kind of hive, whether comb or extracted honey was produced, etc.—that no one can give a fair answer that will suit all cases.—JAMES A. GREEN.

If the cost of the "needful supplies" had been divided, one-half of the honey and increase would be a fair division. If the owner furnishes the supplies, he should have the increase, and the honey may then be equally divided.—EDITORS.

**Under a Church Roof** is where Mr. Geo. R. Allen, of England, took a colony of bees from, on July 15, which he tells about in the *British Bee Journal*. They had been there for 30 years. The length of comb, from one extreme to the other, was 5 feet, running upwards between two rafters. There was but little honey in it. From what the finder saw, he judged that the bees had been attacked by foul brood.

**Catalogues** have been received from the following:

N. A. Knapp, Rochester, O.—8 pages—Italian Bees and Queens, Leghorn Chickens, and Ferrets.

Joseph Harris Co., Moreton Farm, N. Y.—8 pages—Cotswold Sheep, Essex Pigs, Pekin Ducks, and Red Jelly Cur-rant.

**Have You Read** page 389 yet?



## CORRESPONDENCE

ON IMPORTANT SUBJECTS.

### Smoke for Curing Bee-Stings.

E. STRONG.

The best is, to avoid being stung. To this end, a matter of prime importance is, to singe off the hair from the hands and wrists. Do this in the spring, and keep it singed off all summer. Take an ordinary lamp and turn up the blaze. The object is to burn the hair, and nothing else. I used to light a piece of paper, but this is too harsh, and for the time, nearly as bad as the sting.

A mild-eyed bee becomes insane at once when its wings strike animal hair. This causes the desperate tenacity with which they cling to the hair of an animal or brush. And they sting at once, without warning, the hand that is covered with hair, when, by accident, their wings touch it, and how much more when they throw themselves against it on purpose to get up a fuss? But the hand that is singed and smooth, and very slightly rubbed over with honey and propolis, escapes with impunity, as a rule. A lady's hand is certainly well adapted to handling bees.

Like most bee-men I work bare-handed and bare-faced, and escape with very little stinging, but I carefully observe certain little matters that experience has pointed out, and sharply compelled recognition. Everybody knows how to make slow motions, and move in a decrepit manner, but, in passing from one hive to another, forgets to puff a little smoke over the hands. If the hands are moist with perspiration, the smoke will cling all the better. When a bee stings, wet the spot with saliva, and smoke it with hot smoke. The pain will immediately be lessened.

I know of no remedy so good as hot smoke, and so easily applied without loss of time. Time is an important factor, and the smoke penetrates the wound at the same time as the poison and saliva. Smoke is the safest antidote to pain. It can even prevent and quiet lockjaw.

A dangerous wound with the blood heated up in hot weather, can be safely treated with smoke. Hold a piece of smoking punk-wood so that the warm smoke will envelop the wound for five

or ten minutes about twice a day. Observe the patient, and be convinced.

A man in harvest time, and in the heat of the day and of his work, slid off a stack and landed on a fork. It went through the center of the hand and between the bones. At this season of the year, and with the poisonous wheat rust on the tines, this was bad. He was gone to the house about an hour, smoked his hand thoroughly, and went to work again, and after that felt no more pain, and lost no more time. Is this strange? Not at all. This has been repeated, to my knowledge, time and again.

A pine sliver, one inch long and one-eighth of an inch thick, was driven into the center of the thumb from the end, and broken off, and the flesh closed over it, between the bone and thumb-nail. It was so imbedded, that no sliver was supposed to be there. It was smoked three times a day. No time was lost from work nor sleep, and when the sliver was removed after ten days, it came out opposite the way of entry.

Another and chief reason for using smoke on bee-stings is to destroy the scent of the poison, so that other bees will not smell it as you go right along with your work.

My better half says they sting me just as much as any one, but I do not tell of it. This is error. I sometimes work all day without a sting. Last fall, in overhauling the bees for winter, was such a day. When near night, two ladies drove up, and I went to the carriage with comb and bees in my hands, and yet in finishing that colony, with my mind somewhere else, I received several stings.

When you see a man approach a hive and quietly take off the cover carefully, and before the bees seem aware of callers, puff a little smoke over them, as he pulls off a thin cloth, and removes one rack without a bee leaving the top, except to her work, you can just mark it down in your mind, that that man can work all day with comfort to himself, and accomplish just as much as one who walks up to a hive with so heavy a boot that one or more bees will take the trouble to come out of the entrance and around the hive to see who is there. And when he rips off the cover with a jerk, so as to get in the first blow of the attack, he has the enemy at once in front and rear, and the battle begins, and only ends when the hive is closed, and work hastily done instead of slowly. But he says he is used to stings. I believe it. How could it be otherwise?

But there are times when the bee-keeper realizes that there are no infallible rules in bee-keeping. When the bees seem cross, he uses too much smoke, is slightly "rattled" himself, and when he will fail to construe his sentences by the rigid rules of grammar. Even Mr. Doolittle once said that his wrists were sometimes nearly paralyzed with stings. Perhaps this has no relation to unsinged wrists; however, most hands have enough hair to make a great difference, whether they are singed off smooth or not.

A little honey rubbed over the backs of the hands is a great protection, but if one or two bees persist in following you and "looking you out of countenance" for a long time, pick up a 3-inch shingle, step back a ways and play ball with that bee. If you knock it crazy, and it "comes to" after lying in the grass ten minutes it may think that it is its turn to play ball, and send in a stinger without notice. But all this happens in a lifetime, and much more. This "ball playing" is perhaps wrong, and ought not to be advised. Perhaps it does not mend matters, but there is a certain satisfaction and sense of relief for the time.

The ease with which a cover is removed makes all the difference in the world with the quiet manners of a colony, and for this purpose I know of nothing as good as a cloth covering the top of frames and hive.

As to varieties of bees, the beautiful temper of a thoroughbred Italian bee is about as near right as we shall find in this world. We want a bee to sting on suitable occasions. The boys let them alone, and do not need to be told what the rights of honey-bees are. They may stone the helpless toad, and pull the cat's tail, but if they step on a honey-bee it is an accident every time. The tears are genuine.

Kalamazoo, Mich.

### The Origin of Foul Brood.

C. J. ROBINSON.

In the issue of June 9, 1892, page 766, I essayed, in response to Dr. Miller, to explain how it transpires that foul brood originates seemingly spontaneous. The Doctor has not, like Mr. Cornell and certain other correspondents, joined issue with me over the mooted question: "Does, or does not, foul

brood, under any circumstances, originate within a colony of bees?"

Up to 1880 there was no record of any instance of so-called foul brood originating, and it was supposed that all cases of foul brood occurred by reason of inoculation—a transfer of foul brood virus from a diseased colony to healthy brood. I was the first who promulgated that foul brood does, whenever certain conditions are present, originate through a peculiar fermentation of the organic matter called "chrysalis," which in a state of progressive development, is also called "aurelia," a virus that attacks live brood and spreads as does dead tissue (mortification) in contact with healthy tissue or chrysalis.

Several years ago a correspondent mentioned that he had cases of foul brood in his apiary. He was situated many miles from any colonies of bees, so distant that his bees could not be visited by anybody else's bees, and the query with him was, Whence came foul brood among his bees? He put the question, and the reply he received was this: "There must have been colonies of bees in the woods that were diseased, and they visited the hives, thus transmitting the disease." Such an answer is more visionary than sensible.

How came foul broody colonies in the woods, isolated from hives of bees? The hackneyed scepticism, which people so willingly oppose to all progress of the human mind, is a comfortable pillow for lazy heads, but the period in which we live allows no time to sleep, when every hour must sweat her sixty minutes to the death. Graves said: "The empire of Reason, extending from the old to the new world—from Europe to the Antipodes—has encircled the earth, and the sun never sets on her (Reason's) dominions; individuals must rest, but the collective intelligence of the species (mankind) never sleeps."

The most eminent teachers are oft-times conceited. The greatest French surgeon (Duputren) writing of the simple Kentuckian's operation—ovariotomy—denounced the operation as the act of a man who should be indicted for manslaughter, although it must long since have added to the community hundreds of thousands of useful lives of women and mothers of families.

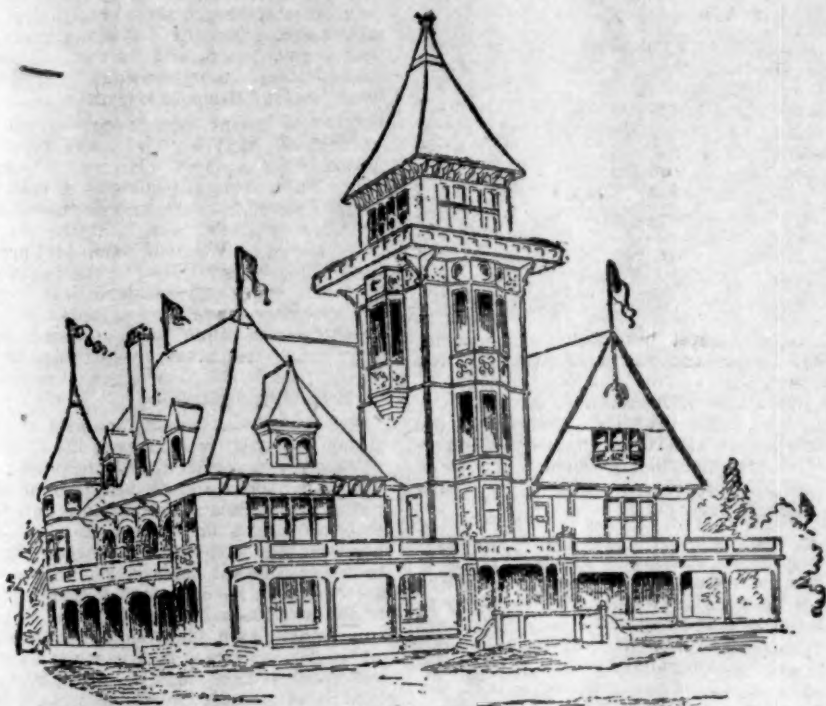
The so-called foul brood ought not to be said that it was a creation of species, unless it be conceded that ferment in all its phases was created as such in the beginning. As well might so-called blood-poison be said to be a creature, as

to say that foul brood only occurs by inoculation. Scientists well know that "blood-poison" is the result of a special ferment, whereby a virus is developed in some part of the animal economy. In a similar way foul brood virus is generated incidentally.

We have seen Darwin elaborating the great scientific doctrine of evolution—in life, in disease, in society, in politics, in religion; Pasteur, demolishing all that is hypothetical in the process of ferment-

except by inoculation, any more than corn can be made to grow without planting the seed—philosophically, a wonderfully awkward comparison. Corn is the fruit of a seed—the germ being reproduced; foul brood is a virus which is generated by the evolution of organic matter, changing the organism of the soil in which it grows—the soil changed to "seed"—and all ends in further changes.

Richford, N. Y.



*Michigan State Building at the World's Columbian Exposition, in 1893.*

tation, classifying his "anaerobies" and "aerobies," demonstrating that fermentation was "life without air," and elucidating the phenomena of lactic, butyric, and acetic fermentation, and, again, dismissing to the limbo of exploded hypothesis the doctrine of spontaneous generation, and foretelling the results of bacterial processes in the disorders known as the "cattle plague," the "vine plague," and the "fowl cholera."

It has been promulgated that foul brood cannot be brought into existence

## Chemical Analysis & Honey Adulteration

PROF. A. J. COOK.

It is well known that sucrose or cane sugar is chemically distinct from glucose; that unlike glucose it will not reduce the copper salts, and has a strong right-handed rotation. The nectar of flowers is largely cane sugar.

Commercial glucose reduces the copper salts, and because of the presence of dextrose, gives a right-handed rotation.



Invert sugar—cane sugar that has been reduced by heating with an acid—is left-handed in its rotation. It is usually given as  $-25^{\circ}$ .

Bees gather the cane sugar of nectar, and while gathering and passing to the hive, they reduce it by digestion, or change it to invert sugar. Thus honey contains from 2 to 8 per cent. of sucrose, 60 to 75 per cent. of reducing sugar levulose and dextrose, and gives a left-handed rotation rarely higher than  $-20^{\circ}$ .

As bees digest the nectar of flowers, we would suppose that honey gathered very rapidly would be less perfectly digested, as it would be a shorter time in the digestive canal, and so would contain more sucrose, and less reducing sugar. As bees gather sweets from such varied sources—widely different flowers, sap and secretions from various insects—we would suppose that the honey might vary not a little. Thus I have long wondered if the formulæ depended upon by our chemists were entirely reliable, and sufficient to always determine the genuine from the adulterated.

To determine this point, I recently sent over 50 samples of honey to three of our ablest chemists, viz.: Dr. R. C. Kedzie, Prof. H. W. Wiley, Government chemist, and Prof. M. A. Scovell, of Kentucky. I have preliminary reports which are exceedingly interesting.

The samples which I sent were simply numbered. There were honeys from all our noted honey-plants, several samples of honey-dew, honey stored rapidly from pure cane syrup fed very rapidly to the bees, and mixtures of honey and glucose.

The samples of honey adulterated with glucose, were detected, but with them was classed a sample of aphid honey, which our bees gathered from bark-lice, and which was rank and entirely unmarketable. Two other samples of honey-dew were pronounced genuine honey. One of these was from cynip infested oak acorns. Both were pleasant to the taste.

The samples of honey from cane sugar syrup, one extracted the next day after it was stored, and the other not until it was capped, were both detected. But with them were classed genuine honey from basswood, white clover, both were very fine, and one from horse-mint, all very rapidly gathered. Thus my opinion, often expressed to my students, that our chemists could not distinguish genuine honey which was rapidly gathered

from that secured by feeding cane syrup, is fully sustained.

Three samples, one white clover, one golden-rod, and one white sage, all very rapidly gathered by the bees, gave such a high left-handed rotation that there was a suspicion of adulteration, with invert sugar. Yet these were all genuine honey of superior excellence.

Three other samples, one from black mangrove, one from an unknown source, stored in Louisiana, and which never granulated, and one from horse-mint (the latter gathered very rapidly), deported themselves exactly as would invert sugar.

Thus we see, that while the chemists can detect adulteration, even with one-third or one-fourth glucose, they could not distinguish honey from flowers, from that secured by feeding bees pure cane-sugar syrup; that while they now can detect adulteration by use of commercial glucose (that most if not always used), they cannot by use of present methods, detect honey produced by feeding bees wholly or in part on cane-sugar syrup.—*College Speculum*.

Agricultural College, Mich.

## Black German Bees vs. Italians.

JOHN H. BLANKEN.

It is about 23 years since the yellow bees came to this country, and it can be easily proved by bee-keepers who kept bees long before that time, whether the Italian or the black German bees are the best. We all know that years ago we had more honey, that of late years the honey crop has been growing smaller, and had we all black bees we might have more honey, because the black bees keep themselves pure, and bring in lots of honey, where Italians are getting mixed up, thus giving their owners plenty of trouble and work; and by trying to keep pure Italians and experimenting to improve our bees we are getting less honey.

Mrs. Atchley says that she kept both blacks and Italians for 20 years, and long ago decided on that question. It must be remembered that within 20 years we have had good improvements in bee-culture, and we should have more honey instead of less in late years. And then, Mrs. A. says that in really good honey-years we cannot see much difference between the two races.

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What I have said before, I must say again, no matter what others think about it; and those that know me will remember that I never use a smoker, neither do I use gloves, and very seldom a veil, in my own or anybody else's apiary; for I have been working with bees and in apiaries since my 8th year, and find that black bees are not as cross as hybrids and others, and are better workers.

Jersey City, N. J.

## Why Clergymen Should Keep Bees.

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This is a subject which has not been touched in this paper for some time, and so a few lines upon it may not be out of place. It may reach some of my brethren in the ministry who have not thought of the matter before, and induce them to join our ranks and begin the study of the honey-bee, which they will find one of the most interesting that can engage their attention.

A large number of the most advanced and intelligent bee-keepers belong to this class, and they have done much to make this industry what it now is. In proof of this, I need only to refer to the case of the Rev. L. L. Langstroth, who, by his inventions, writings and addresses, has well earned the title of "The Father of American Bee-Keeping." We do look up to him, and reverence and respect him as a father, and sympathize with him deeply in the keen sufferings, the "much tribulation" through which he is called upon to pass.

Others of the clerical profession, though not so noted as Mr. Langstroth,

have added their quota to the general fund of information and experience. Still the number of clergymen who keep bees is comparatively small. Now, there are quite a number of reasons why they should keep bees, viz.:

1. For recreation and exercise. No class of men need this more. In fact they must have it if they are to make the most of themselves, and do their work in the best possible way. Now, the occupation of bee-keeping furnishes them, during a portion of the year, with the recreation and exercise they require. They cannot help becoming intensely interested in it, as their knowledge increases, and they go on making experiments and performing the manipulations necessary for successful bee-keeping. In this way their minds are drawn away from their studies and their worries, and are rested and refreshed. Whilst thus occupied in the open air, they obtain exercise for their bodies, and inhale an abundant supply of oxygen, which causes the blood to course through their veins with greater ease, and imparts fresh warmth and vitality to the entire system; so that when they return to their studies, they are prepared mentally and physically for doing efficient work.

2. For the addition to their incomes of what it furnishes. As a class, clergymen are underpaid, considering the time and money spent in preparation for the work, the position they must occupy in society, and the innumerable calls made upon them for Christian and benevolent objects. The result is, that very many have great difficulty in making ends meet. If they have families to educate it is only by exercising self-denial and observing the strictest economy that they can do it. In these circumstances the profits of a little apiary form a most helpful appendage, and secure many little extras which add very materially to the comforts of the home. I have heard of more than one clergyman who made enough from his bees to educate his children, some of his sons being now in the ministry.

3. For the means which it furnishes of ministering to the sick. Whilst imparting to them spiritual consolation, he can at the same time tempt their impaired bodily appetites by giving them a little honey done up in an attractive way, and by a slight attention of this kind, he may strengthen the tie and increase the affection subsisting between his people and him.

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4. For the counsel he may be able to give, and the assistance he may render

to those of his parishioners and neighbors who may keep bees.

Among the students found in Mr. D. A. Jones' apiary a few years ago, was a Roman Catholic priest from Muskoka, who came there to learn the art of bee-keeping, that he might instruct his people, and put them in the way of adding materially to their scanty livelihoods. He realized that though most of that region was unfitted for profitable cultivation, there was an abundant supply of flora that was going to waste, and that if he could induce the poor people who had settled there to go into bee-keeping, it might very much improve their worldly circumstances. Some of the largest yields of honey we have heard of have been in Muskoka.

Now, few clergymen may be situated as this priest was, and be able to turn the knowledge acquired to such account for the benefit of those under their charge; yet all have many opportunities of being helpful to others in this respect, and it affords one a great deal of pleasure to do this. He may occasionally lose a little time, and be subjected to a little interruption; but the happiness derived from being the means of rendering assistance to others compensates him for it all. One never loses anything by being always ready to help others. In fact, this is one of the great aims of life—"not to look on our own things, but the things also of others."—*Canadian Bee Journal*.

Bond Head, Ont.

### Pure Honey and C. F. Muth & Son.

REV. L. K. LANGSTROTH.

Allow me to give my reasons for believing that pure honey and C. F. Muth & Son have such a natural affinity for each other that they will never be found warring against each other.

When my patent on movable frames was extended, in 1866, I endeavored to sell brass trade-marks, each having its own number, for 25 cents apiece—one to be put on every new hive made under the extended patent. Mr. Muth, who was then just beginning his apiarian career, purchased trade-marks for all the hives he made for his own use or for sale, until my patent expired. He had no personal acquaintance with me; but he believed that I had rights, and was determined to respect them. If the great mass of bee-keepers who were benefited by my hive had done the same

thing, I should have been well rewarded for my invention.

I had, therefore, ample proof, more than 20 years ago, from Mr. Muth's dealings with me when I was too poor to defend my legal rights, that he was an honest man; and his whole course as one of the largest (if not the largest) dealers in the United States in pure honeys, has established for him a reputation for fair dealing, of which any business man might justly feel an honorable pride.

For the 25 years I have known Mr. Muth, I have been a frequent visitor at his house, often spending days with him, and have been familiar with all his methods of putting up his honey, which, indeed, have always been open to the honey-world, as his place of business has been a great rendezvous where all bee-keepers might be sure of a hospitable reception.

Now, if there had been any attempt to adulterate the goods in which he dealt, how could it possibly have escaped the notice of the hosts of bee-keepers who were welcome at times to inspect all his processes; or how could it have failed, sooner or later, to have been exposed by some of his employees?

The only adulterants of honey which could ever be profitably used are sugar and glucose; and as Mr. Muth deals in honey by the hundreds of thousands of pounds, he could not possibly adulterate his honeys with either on so large a scale as to make it profitable, without the kind of business he was carrying on betraying itself by the sugar and glucose barrels which he would have been obliged to handle. The idea that Mr. Muth could adulterate, and yet escape detection, is too preposterous to be entitled to the notice I have already given it.

It is true Mr. Muth deals largely in all kinds of pure honey—good, bad, and indifferent; for there is a large demand for all these kinds, even for the darkest and poorest, which is used in the manufacture of printers' rollers—nothing else being able to compete with it for such a purpose. Tobacconists and brewers are also large consumers of pure dark honeys, while the choicest qualities are purchased for making the famous honey-cakes which keep fresh for nearly six months. A single maker of these cakes buys of the Muths a carload of choice honey—some 20,000 to 24,000 pounds—ever five or six weeks!

Enough has been said to show, not only that Mr. Muth is not the style of

man out of which adulterators are made, but, apart from all motives of honor and honesty, he is a man of too much good business-sense to engage in falsifications which, sooner or later, would surely be detected, and would end in the ruin of his extensive business.

But may not Mr. Muth be imposed upon by those who have adulterated honeys for sale, and thus become an innocent agent for imposing their goods upon the public? Now, as the only way in which honey can be profitably adulterated is by using sugar or glucose, such fraudulent mixtures can never be imposed upon such experts as Charles F. Muth & Son. Before I lost my exquisite sense of taste and smell, I could always recognize any honey with which I had once become acquainted.

For the last four years Mr. Muth has associated with himself in business his son, Augustus G., who has been with him as an assistant ever since he has dealt in honey, and who shares the same honorable instincts with his father.

Those who are personally acquainted with C. F. Muth need no endorsement of his honesty by me or any one else; but as his good name has been called in question by those who do not know him, I have felt that it was my duty which I owed to my tried friend of so many years, and to the bee-keeping public, to speak as I have.

If any honey bearing the label of C. F. Muth & Son has been found to be adulterated, I believe that either some mistake has been made in the analysis, or else it has been tampered with by dishonest parties. Dr. C. C. Miller is confident that Mr. Muth's labels have been counterfeited by dealers who wished to dispose of their bogus honey on the strength of his good name.

I close as I began—pure honey and Charles F. Muth & Son are words and things which have always gone together, and which I hope will very soon, with some suitable device which cannot be easily counterfeited, become the legal trade-mark of a firm which has done so much for the bee-keepers of this country by affording a cash market for their products, and by setting their faces as a flint against all adulterators and adulterations.

Dayton, O., Aug. 25, 1892.

[We think that no one who knows Messrs. Muth & Son need be told that they are honest men, and would not stoop to the crime of adulteration of honey, or anything else; and the only

excuse we offer for publishing the foregoing article, is because of the reflection that has recently been cast upon their fair name by reason of the "Report on Honey" issued by the Government under the direction of Prof. H. W. Wiley. —Eds.]

## CONVENTION DIRECTORY.

### Time and place of meeting.

1892.  
Oct. 4.—Capital, at Springfield, Ills.  
C. E. Yocom, Sec., Sherman, Ills.  
Oct. 7.—Utah, at Salt Lake City, Utah.  
John C. Swaner, Sec., Salt Lake City, Utah.  
Oct. 18, 19.—Illinois State, at Chicago, Ills.  
Jas. A. Stone, Sec., Bradfordton, Ills.  
Nov. 28.—Allegany Co., at Angelica, N. Y.  
H. L. Dewight, Sec., Friendship, N. Y.
1893.  
Jan. 13, 14.—S.W. Wisconsin, at Boscobel, Wis.  
Edwin Pike, Pres., Boscobel, Wis.

In order to have this table complete, Secretaries are requested to forward full particulars of the time and the place of each future meeting.—THE EDITORS.

**North American Bee-Keepers' Association**  
PRESIDENT—Eugene Seoor, Forest City, Iowa.  
SECRETARY—W. Z. Hutchinson, Flint, Mich.

**National Bee-Keepers' Union.**  
PRESIDENT—James Heddon, Dowagiac, Mich.  
SECY AND MANAGER—T. G. Newman, Chicago.

## SELECTIONS FROM OUR LETTER BOX

### REPORTS, PROSPECTS, ETC.

Do not write anything for publication on the same sheet of paper with business matters, unless it can be torn apart without interfering with either part of the letter.

### Bee-Keeping in State of Washington.

I notice by reference to the different bee-papers that the great majority of bee-keepers are short of surplus honey. Surplus in this part of the country is not very plentiful, mostly on account of the late, backward spring.

I notice on page 303, that some of our brethren have somewhat the same kind of people to deal with that we have, viz.: to get the best honey for the



smallest possible price. I have sold all of my honey in sections for 25 cents per pound, and would not sell for any less, while some others were selling theirs for 20 cents. I told them I would keep mine until theirs was all sold, and then they'd feel like kicking themselves for selling cheap. I always scrape my sections clean, while they do not take the trouble. I also stamp my name on all I send out, so that any one can tell whence it came. If merchants have their price for goods they sell, why cannot we? Supply and demand govern the prices.

This part of the State (Whatcom county) is just beginning to go into the business on the improved processes, the Langstroth, or Simplicity, taking the lead. Some are going to try the Italian bees, while some are almost tired of them, on account of their swarming propensities. Most of our bees go into winter quarters in good condition. All of the bees here are wintered on the summer stands. How is that for 49° north latitude? J. B. RAMAGE.

Blaine, Wash., Sept. 6, 1892.

#### Just Rolling in the Honey.

I have now 38 colonies of bees that are just rolling in the honey from smart-weed, golden-rod and wild-aster. The wild-aster is yielding a great deal of nectar, and bees work on it all day long.

W. A. FEE.

Rockport, Ind., Sept. 13, 1892.

#### Honey from Spanish-Needle, Etc.

Through the columns of the BEE JOURNAL I gave some account of my spring trials. Well, we had an abundance of white clover, but it did not yield much nectar, and with 45 colonies I secured only 450 pounds of surplus, only 30 of which was comb honey. Of 2 colonies standing side by side, and the same strength and stores, one run for comb and the other for extracted honey (I have extracting combs ready-built), the "comb honey colony" would not store an ounce of surplus, while the "extracting colony" filled their super. Mr. Day, who lives near me, has 35 colonies, and run them for comb honey, but did not get a pound. Why is this?

I am looking for a grand yield of Spanish-needle honey. The fields are yellow with it in places, and I am moving my bees out of town into the Spanish-needle fields. I can squeeze a good-

sized drop of nectar from each blossom. My bees worked some on smart-weed, and I should like to know what kind of honey it yields. I sell my comb honey here at 20 cents per pound; white clover, extracted, at 12½ cents; and Spanish-needle at 10 cents. I should like to hear the opinions of bee-keepers on the wooden package for extracted honey that is advertised.

My scale hive showed as follows for the last four days: 4 pounds, 4½, 5, and 4¾ pounds; total, 18¾ pounds in four days, and it is only a moderately strong colony.

It makes me smile to hear bee-keepers assert that bees cannot hear, and then gravely tell us of the swarming note, calls, etc., which the queen gives when on the wing. FRANK RICHARDSON.

Moberly, Mo., Sept. 9, 1892.

[Smart-weed honey is fairly good honey, but it has a rather sharp or "smart" taste. Some people prefer it, doubtless, on that very account.—Eds.]

#### Good Prospects for Fall Honey.

We are having nice queen-rearing weather—we never had better weather, or better prospects for fall honey than now.

MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY.

Floyd, Tex., Sept. 14, 1892.

#### Bees in Good Condition for Winter.

I have 55 colonies of bees, and have obtained no honey and no swarms; but the bees are in good condition for winter.

ANDERSON HYER.

Washington C.H., O., Sept. 13, 1892.

#### Working on "Heart's-Ease."

Heart's-ease is the rage with the bees now, and I want to keep them at it. One colony stored 126 pounds of comb honey. I have 73 colonies.

B. F. FEAZEL.

Washburn, Ills., Sept. 14, 1892.

#### Predictions of the Honey-Flow, Etc.

I notice that Mr. Thomas Johnson, of Coon Rapids, Iowa, asks why I did not tell that they would have one of the best honey-flows in Western Iowa, instead of telling what I did. What did I tell? I said that Iowa would have a far better yield this year than last. Did that miss it badly?

I said that the eastern part of the State would have a good yield, and that it would not be good in the West; but I did not say there would be a failure in any part of the State. I said it would be the worst failure in Mills, Cass, Guthrie, Dallas and Polk counties of any part of the State, but I did not say it would be a failure there. Mr. Johnson says it has been one of the best of honey-flows.

I think that Mr. Frank Coverdale, of Welton, some three or four years ago, averaged close to 140 pounds to the colony, and I think doubled his colonies, and he had about 80, spring count, as near as I remember. According to that, Mr. Johnson did not get one-third of a crop. I do not see how he can call that a good yield.

I stated in my predictions that I did not have as good a chance this year, as I had last, to show that I could tell what I claimed I could; but when the right time comes, which surely will come, I will convince you that I can tell what I profess to tell, beyond a doubt. If the weather had been favorable, there would have been double the honey this year that there was last year. It was in the flowers, but the bees could not get out to gather it.

I do not know that I would have given out my predictions for this year, but bee-men kept writing me from every part of the country, for my predictions. I know I did not have a good chance to prove that I could tell what the honey-flow would be.

I am glad that bee-keepers are interested in my predictions, and I will prove to them that I can tell of any coming failure of honey, caused by the non-secretion of nectar when it prevails over any great portion of country the same year.

I have not taken a single pound of honey yet. I think, though, that I will get some yet, as I think we will have a good fall flow from asters, if it does not get too hot and dry. It is very dry now, and has been so for a long time. Corn is cut short by half in this part of the country.

SAM WILSON.

Cosby, Tenn., Aug. 27, 1892.

[We think it is about time that Mr. Wilson should begin to give his proof (if he has any) that he can foretell whether there will be a honey-flow or not, and not keep on saying that he can "show that he could tell what he claimed he could." If he has anything of value

along the line of prophecy, it is quite time he was giving some "reasons for the faith that is in him," or he will soon be put down as a "false prophet."—Eds.]



COMBED AND EXTRACTED.

### Beautiful May—That Didn't Come.

MRS. A. L. HALLENBECK.

All through the long dreary April  
We longed for the lovely May,  
With her sunshine and birds and flowers  
That come with the soft spring day.  
But we watched her birth in the morning,  
Through teardrops of falling rain;  
For Nature was grieved for her darling,  
And wept that she came thus in pain.

We hoped she would smile on the morrow,  
And watched through each dreary day  
For the flowers, the birds, and the sunshine,  
To welcome the lovely May.  
But the winds grieved with mournful sighing  
And the clouds wept their tears of pain,  
Till all of her sad days were ended,  
And she died in the sobbing rain.

JUNE.

But June came, and with it the sunshine;  
It came as if meaning to stay;  
The clover-blooms nod to the breezes;  
The busy bees, working away,  
Bring joy to the hearts of their keepers,  
And teach us to never despair;  
For He who gives all of our blessings  
Knows how to, and when to, and where.  
Millard, Neb. —Gleanings.

### Japanese Buckwheat.

This foreigner has been tried by many and is well liked, the seed being larger than other well known varieties. Where the corn was drowned out by floods, it might have been sown. Years ago I frequently drove by a farm where near the road was a low, rich piece of ground yearly yielding an immense growth of iron-weed and useless plants. It changed hands one spring. It was before the advent of tiling, but when the low, rich piece of ground had dried out, it was ploughed up, pulverized and sowed to

buckwheat, which put a quietus on the weeds. The value of this ground was ascertained, and yearly since it has yielded good crops of different kinds.—*Mrs. L. HARRISON, in Prairie Farmer.*

#### Distance to Prevent "Mixed Bees."

I see some write as though they thought two different races of bees could be kept within one mile of each other and yet be no mixing from one to the other. If such writers are practicing what they teach, they do not know what "mixed bees" are.

When the apiary of which I am part owner was first Italianized, the Italian bees were unknown about here. At that time there were within five miles of our apiary about as many hives of black or German bees as we had Italians; and by the second season about half of the hives of black bees within that distance showed trace of Italian blood. A few colonies mixed seven miles off. The bees in some of these hives would be pretty fair hybrids, while in others about a fourth of the bees would show one and two bands, the others none at all. Up to this time no swarms had left our yard; and, according to the theory of nearly all the best authorities on bees (in which they surely are wrong), there could not have been any hybrid drones in the hives of black bees by the second season.—*GEORGE W. CLEVELAND, in Gleanings.*

#### An Awful, but True, Indictment.

The liquor traffic bids for ignorant vicious and purchasable votes. It dominates in primaries and dictates nominations in conventions. It silences the police. It suborns evidence. It bribes juries and judges. It lobbies the legislatures. It combines with all kindred evils. It seeks the balance of power. Its own forces are as compact as a Roman legion or a Macedonian phalanx. It is a secret tribunal. It is an owl of the night. It acknowledges no criterion but success, and worships no God but self-interest. It has no patriotism, and carries the black flag. Instance the shameful record of the Louisiana lottery. What that lottery was for a time, the liquor traffic is all the time.

Who can outline this traffic? To-day we see it in perspective as it throws across the dark and distant heavens, against a back-ground tragic and terrible, its direful and ever changing profile. A Titan, a fighter, an athlete, a

vampire, an octopus, a python, a volcano. It has the stealth of the tiger, the bound of the panther, the weight of the mastodon, the momentum of an avalanche, and speed of lightning. Terrible is its secretiveness, it never foretells what it wants, nor where it goes, nor where it strikes. It advances and recoils. It threatens North and South.

With one fringe of its cloud it eclipses the genius of Prentiss, while with a paralyzing glare of its lightning it "turns the poetry of Burns into tuneless babble." It was said of a French communist, wherever it respires it conspires with no more conscience than cold iron, no more heart than an iceberg; it confronts us to-day, as ever before, always the foe of man—always inexorable—inaccessible—glacial. The man who makes friends with it lashes himself to a tomb with the boom of eternity's retribution sounding in his ears. The party which makes coalition with it invites the scorn of man and the judgment of God.

If you ask the centuries what is the result of this traffic, the answer comes century by century, like the peal of minute guns from some drowning ship, or like the measured stroke of a funeral bell, or like storm-thud on granite shores: "Death—ever death—utter death." An eternal reverberation which fills all history.—*DR. B. H. CARROLL.*

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